

State of Washington
Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
Innergex Renewable - Wautoma Solar Energy Project – EFSEC Docket No. EF-220355
NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR COMMENT
November 12, 2024

Description of Proposal

On June 9, 2022, EFSEC received an Application for a Site Certification (ASC) from Innergex Renewable Energy USA, LLC, proposing the construction and operation of the Wautoma Solar Energy Project (Project). The ASC proposes the construction of a renewable energy generation facility that would have a nameplate generating capacity of up to 470 megawatts (MWs) as well as a battery energy storage system (BESS). The proposed Project is located in Benton County, Washington.

The Project's Lease Boundary as proposed would encompass approximately 5,852 acres principally used as range lands and for crop cultivation. The Project is proposed in the unincorporated area of northwest Benton County, Washington, approximately 12 miles north of Sunnyside (the Site). The Application seeks authority to construct and operate a solar PV facility to generate a maximum of 470 megawatts (MW), a 470 MW battery storage system (BESS) and supporting facilities.

What is EFSEC proposing to do?

EFSEC is holding a public comment period to receive public comment on conditions to be included in a draft Site Certification Agreement (SCA) and draft Recommendation Report to the Governor for the proposed Project. EFSEC is required to report its recommendation to the Governor as to whether to approve or deny an application for site certification per RCW 80.50.100. EFSEC may consider and take final action on the recommendation to the Governor at the public Council Meeting on November 20, 2024.

How can you review the proposal documents?

A copy of the draft conditions contained in the draft SCA and draft Recommendation Report to the governor are available for review at:

- <https://www.efsec.wa.gov/energy-facilities/wautoma-solar-project>
- EFSEC
621 Woodland Square Loop
PO Box 43172
Lacey, WA 98503-3172

How can you provide public comment?

You may comment on the proposal through 11:59pm on November 17 on the EFSEC comment website at <https://comments.efsec.wa.gov> or in writing to the EFSEC office (see address above).

EFSEC's review process

EFSEC reviews applications for the siting and operation of energy facilities and prepares a recommendation to the Governor on whether to approve or reject the application. If EFSEC recommends approval, it prepares a draft SCA that must include conditions to protect state or local, governmental or community interests affected by the construction or operation of the energy facility, and conditions designed to recognize the purpose of applicable state and local laws and ordinances, which are preempted to the extent that they regulate the location, construction, and operation of energy facilities under EFSEC's jurisdiction. If signed by the Governor and the Applicant, the SCA is a binding contract.

For more information about the SCA, contact Lance Caputo, Siting Specialist, at (360) 664-1305 or lance.caputo@efsec.wa.gov.